

# REGION 8 REVIEW

Official Newsletter of the  
Southern New Hampshire  
Regional Coordinating Council  
for Community Transportation



Ben Herbert,  
Regional Mobility Manager, Region 8



In late April, I had the pleasure of participating in an MTA bus ride-along with staff from MTA and SNHPC, Manchester Ink Link contributor Jeff Rogers, and Manchester City Aldermen Bryce Kawah (Ward 1), Dana Dexter (Ward 3), Crissy Kantor (Ward 6), and June Trisciani (At-Large).

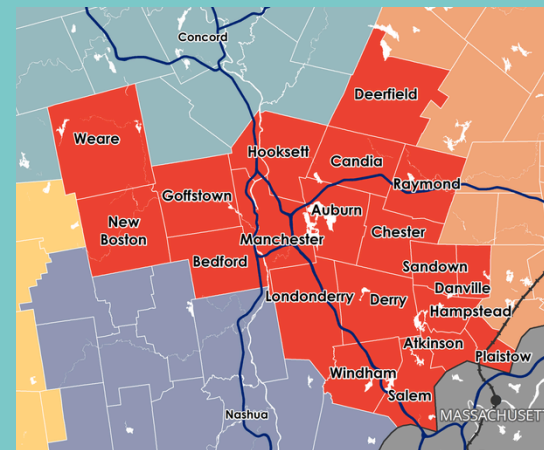
Participants rode the #8 Route, which goes from downtown Manchester to the Mall of NH. Joining us was Liliana Vornehm, SNHPC's Assistant Planner and coordinator of the Bus Buddy program, which teaches organizations and riders on how to use the MTA bus system. During the ride-along, Liliana gave us a firsthand experience of what it's like to be a bus buddy and how to navigate the MTA system.

An article was published on Ink Link highlighting the event, the Bus Buddy program, and general information about riding the MTA. You can view the article here:

<https://manchester.inklink.news/pedals-pathways-the-bus-buddies-program-and-the-manchester-transit-authority/>



## PROVIDERS



[Atkinson Elder Services](#)

[CART](#)

[The CareGivers](#)

[Community Caregivers of Greater Derry](#)

[Community Volunteer Transportation Company](#)

[Easterseals NH](#)

[Greater Salem Caregivers](#)

[Meals on Wheels of Hillsborough County](#)

[Meals on Wheels of Rockingham County](#)

[Manchester Transit Authority](#)

[Ready Rides](#)

[Sandown Senior Affairs Transportation Program](#)



**SAVE THE DATE**

# 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**HOSTED BY THE NH TRANSIT ASSOCIATION AND STATE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION**

You are invited to attend the **2026 Annual Conference** hosted by the [New Hampshire Transit Association](#) and the [State Coordinating Council for Community Transportation](#).

This year's conference theme—**Mission Critical. Mission Possible. Mission Go!**—will bring together transportation professionals, partners, and stakeholders from across New Hampshire for a full day

of learning, collaboration, and discussion on the issues shaping community transportation. A detailed agenda will be shared soon.

Registration is now open and will remain available until capacity is reached

Proof of registration is not required; Names will be checked at the door using the registration list. Invited Special Guests, Sponsors, and Speakers, do not use this link to register. You will receive specific registration instructions from Steve Workman by separate email.

On-site lodging available at the Concord Courtyard by Marriott <https://grapponeconferencecenter.com>

**Date:** Thursday, June 4, 2026

**Time:** 8:30am - 3:00pm

**Location:** Grappone Center, Concord, NH

**Cost:** \$75

**Registration Link:** <https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/transporth/nhta-scc-annual-conference-2026>

For questions or help with registration please contact: [steve@transporth.org](mailto:steve@transporth.org)





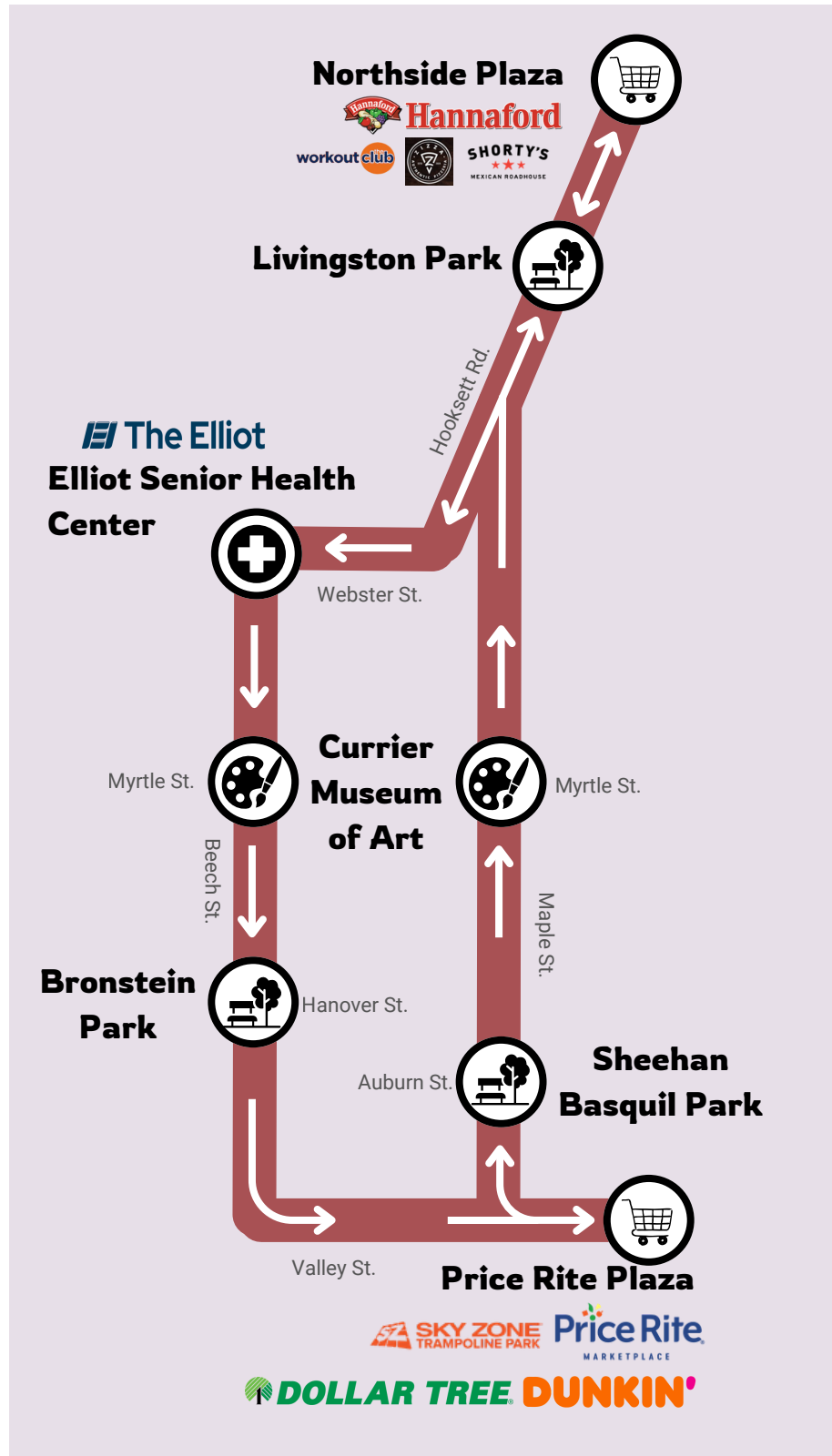
# RIDES TO THE POOL: MTA'S NEWEST ROUTE

Starting June 22<sup>nd</sup>, MTA will pilot its newest route: the #42 North Side Plaza/Livingston Park. With this new service, Manchester residents will have access to the public pool at Livingston Park during the summer months, as well as convenient transportation for grocery shopping at North Side Plaza off Bicentennial Drive.

This exciting new route came to fruition through the Transportation Workgroup of Manchester's Age-Friendly Initiative. This workgroup comprises City Staff from the Health Dept., Dept. of Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Manchester Transit Authority; multiple city aldermen; and staff from Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission and Easterseals NH.

Organized by Ward 5 Alderman Jason Bonilla and local entrepreneur Nick Carnes, a GoFundMe campaign was launched in late March to raise \$22,800 for the new service. Through individual donations, \$7,800 was raised via GoFundMe, and the Manchester Health Department closed the remaining gap with \$15,000 in ARPA funds.

The bus will run 8 times a day, 6 days a week. A detailed schedule is expected to be released by MTA prior to June 22<sup>nd</sup>. **The route is fare-free** and will end the Saturday after Labor Day in September. If ridership is substantial, the pilot will continue running past the 9/12 end-date.





# Region 8 Ridership Report

In 2025, 11 community transportation services provided **18,658 trips** to **545 locations** throughout the Greater Manchester-Derry-Salem area. Below are the top 20 most frequent locations, which made up **53% of all trip destinations!**

The full 2025 Region 8 Ridership Report is scheduled to be released by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. **Keep an eye out on Region 8's Keep NH Moving page for the report, or contact Ben Herbert at bherbert@snhpc.org.**

### HOOKSETT

- **Walmart/Market Basket (Hooksett)** - 580 trips

### MANCHESTER

- **S. Willow St. Commercial Area** - 912 trips
- **Brady Sullivan Tower** - 823 trips
- **East Side Plaza** - 587 trips
- **Elliot at River's Edge** - 577 trips
- **Elliot Hospital** - 448 trips
- **Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center** - 437 trips
- **William B. Cashin Senior Center** - 374 trips
- **Downtown Manchester** - 322 trips

### DERRY

- **Downtown Derry** - 601 trips
- **Tsienneto Rd. Medical Area** - 390 trips
- **Walmart (Derry)** - 389 trips
- **Crystal Ave. Commercial Area** - 376 trips
- **Manchester Rd. Commercial Area** - 376 trips

### PLAISTOW

- **Vic-Geary Community Center** - 420 trips

### BEDFORD

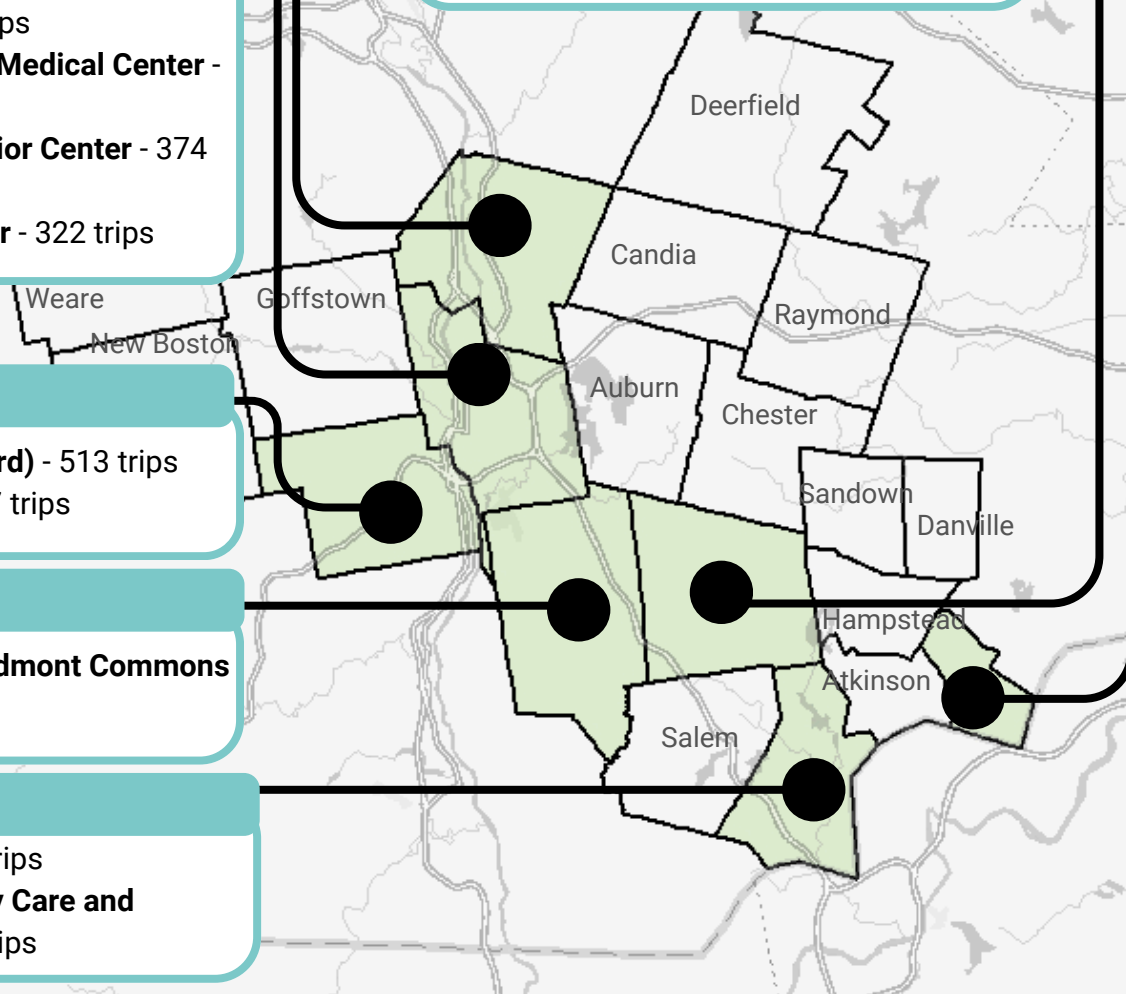
- **Market Basket (Bedford)** - 513 trips
- **S. River Rd. Area** - 327 trips

### LONDONDERRY

- **Garden Ln Plaza/Woodmont Commons** - 715 trips

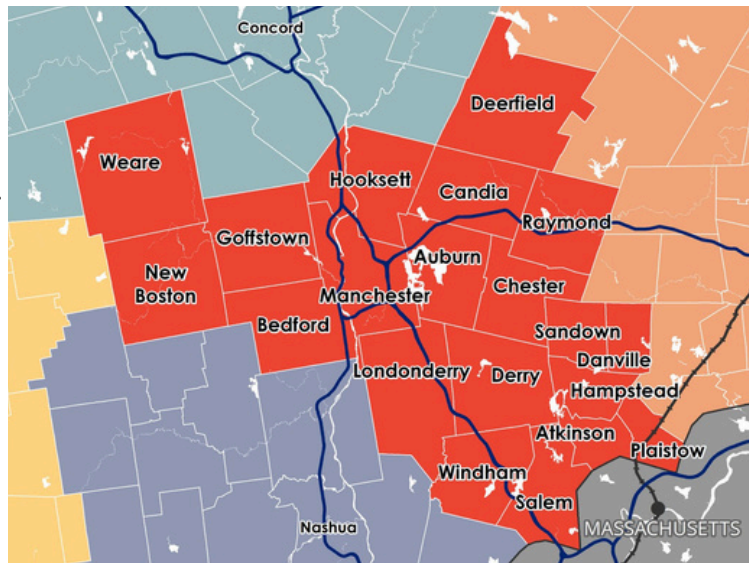
### SALEM

- **Tuscan Village** - 345 trips
- **Silverthorne Adult Day Care and Nursing Home** - 316 trips



# ABOUT THE REGION

The Region 8 Coordinating Council serves 350,000+ New Hampshire residents throughout areas of Hillsborough, Rockingham, and Merrimack Counties. Municipalities in this region include: **Atkinson, Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Danville, Deerfield, Derry, Goffstown, Hampstead, Hooksett, Londonderry, Manchester, New Boston, Plaistow, Raymond, Salem, Sandown, Weare, and Windham.**



## Next RCC Meeting:

Tuesday, July 14, 2026 | 12:30pm - 2:00pm | Agenda coming soon

The RCC meets at SNHPC in the William G. Herman Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public and you can attend in-person or virtually. Visit [snhpc.org](http://snhpc.org) for more information.

## More Resources:



[Keep NH Moving](#)



SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Regional Coordinating Council  
FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

[Region 8 RCC Webpage](#)



[I Need a Ride!](#)

## Contact Information

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